



## **LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes**

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2020

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom Video Conference Call

**Notice to the Public on remote meetings:** In the interests of preventing abuse of video-conferencing, all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Commissioners Julia Forsythe (Chair), Andy Robinson (Vice Chair), Lisa Krinsky, Brooks Harrelson, Lenny Goldstein, Keith Mistler, Helene Newberg, Maura Albert, Susan Ryan-Vollmar

Liaisons: Jillian Harvey- DEI, Len Diggins- Select Board, Marci Shapiro-Ide- Council on Aging

Guests: Robin Finn and Adam, Aisha Cruse, Leila Duncan, Laura Kiesel, Kunlin Yang, Molly Gillis and one other, Lynn Bishop

### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. HN assigned as minute-taker

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Consent Agenda

- a. BH moves to accept the minutes with a correction to Arlington Reads striking "Becoming Nicole", SRV seconds, motion carries.
  - b. Correspondence: BH moves to remove letter from consent agenda to discuss, AR seconds; motion carries.
- 3. Subcommittees
  - a. Business Bias and Discrimination (JF & LK) subcommittee inaugural meeting held. Discussed structure, training, and recognition of welcoming businesses program in Arlington.
  - b. Public Education: Public Education: (LK, MA, SRV, KM) discussing possible Coming Out Day (Oct. 11) event, plus enabling educators with resources, cosponsoring racial diversity and LGZBTQIA+ intersectionality educational events with local and regional groups.
  - c. Community Engagement: (AR, MA, BH, LG) Brainstorming pandemic-style events, promoting Sage Table event, promoting Tuesday afternoon COA Zoom calls for socializing.
  - d. Communications: (SRV, KM) Social media accounts up and running, engaging with other Arlington accounts/commissions. 4000% growth in engagement, the Mask Up Mass post was a hit; BH moves to add \$50-\$100 to budget to upgrade website template, AR seconds, motion carries
  - e. Note to add budget review to regular committee check-ins
- 4. Pride Banner Update: banners will fly over Mass Ave in Arlington Center Sept. 1 through Sept. 18; need list of sponsors to publicize on website
- 5. Liaisons and partnerships
  - a. JH met with all three Commission Chairs, will continue to meet monthly and look for ways to bring all Commissioners together across the three Commissions (Human Rights, Disability, and Rainbow)
  - b. JH is serving on the Arlington Reads Together selection committee
  - c. Municipal Equality Index paperwork submitted; JH and Commissioners welcome to attend Human Rights Campaign MEI conference
  - d. COA: weekly zoom group Tuesdays all are welcome 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; also sponsoring a movie series with library. Arlington for All Ages 5K on Labor Day is the major fundraiser for the ACOA; Planning Sage Table event in November
- 6. APD Policy on Trans People
  - a. Procedural Changes- Agenda items reversed, Open Forum preceded this item to allow community concerns surround the item.
  - b. APD request for review of policy for police interaction with Transgender individuals is tabled to next month's meeting, with additional information.
- 7. Open Forum
  - a. Public concern that Rainbow Commission engagement with the Arlington Police Department in light of personnel would devalue Transgender

community. Concern that engagement would legitimize and/or “pinkwash” APD’s profile in town. Robin Finn notes that large numbers of residents are prepared to take direct action to pressure the Commission to desist from engagement with APD.

8:11pm: BH Moves to Adjourn: LK seconded, motion carries, meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting:** September 17, 2020 6:30-8:30 pm Remote Participation